

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Canceled).

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The method pursuant to Claim 9, wherein the chemically modified hyperpolymeric hemoglobin originates from humans, swine, or cattle.

Claim 3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The method pursuant to Claim 9, wherein the solution contains sodium chloride at a concentration between 50 and 150 g/L.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The method pursuant to Claim 9, wherein the electrolytes are selected to correspond with physiological ambient media in the person the solution is intended to be administered to.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The method pursuant to Claim 9, further comprising covalently bonding a polyalkylene oxide to the modified hyperpolymeric hemoglobin prior to administering the solution to a person.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The method pursuant to Claim 9, wherein the solution is administered to the person by intravascular injection.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The method pursuant to Claim 9, wherein the solution is administered to the person at least twice.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A method of treating acute pulmonary edema comprising:

(a) providing an aqueous hypo-oncotic solution comprising electrolytes and high molecular weight intermolecularly crosslinked hyperpolymeric hemoglobin, which is further chemically modified by at least one of covalent linkage of to chemically reactive effectors of oxygen binding, or and covalent linkage of to other macromolecules selected from the group

consisting of poly(ethylene oxides), poly(ethylene glycols), dextrans, and hydroxyethylstarches; and

(b) administering the solution to a person to treat acute pulmonary edema, wherein the solution before administration to a person has a (hypo) oncotic pressure below 5 mbar.